Memorandum

To: Gold Coast Health Plan Network Providers

From: Vicki Wrighster
Senior Director, Provider Network Operations

Re: Maternity Services for Pregnant and Postpartum Medi-Cal Members (APL 26-006)

Date: Oct. 26, 2026

The state Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) has updated its guidance, All Plan Letter (APL) 26-005, that addresses maternity benefits managed care plans are required to provide to pregnant and postpartum members.

The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) has created resources to help providers to understand the new requirements, including a website and provider handbook.

1. **California Prenatal Screening (PNS) Program Provider Handbook**
CDPH has developed a free, comprehensive **California Prenatal Screening (PNS) Program Provider Handbook.** The handbook provides information on prenatal screening options, provider responsibilities, patient counseling, test ordering, results interpretation, and follow-up services. Network providers may use this resource to support members in making informed decisions regarding participation in the California Prenatal Screening Program.

2. **CDPH Prenatal Care Providers webpage:**
The Provider Resources page includes information on these topics:

- Provider Handbook
- Patient education materials
- Provider training video
- Workflow posters
- Consent language translations
- Forms and FAQs
- Prenatal Diagnosis Center resources

The CDPH Prenatal Care Providers webpage is available here.

As always, thank you for serving our members. Please reach out to providerrelations@goldchp.org with any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Vicki Wrighster
Senior Director, Provider Network Operations